



# Companion Animal Advocates Newsletter

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## WHO WE ARE

Companion Animal Advocates (CAA) is a **nonprofit, all volunteer organization** based in Northern New Jersey. CAA is committed to keeping family pets from being surrendered to already crowded shelters because their owners can no longer care for them.

CAA is making a significant difference in the lives of so many people in our community. We are proactively addressing day-to-day issues that every pet owner faces through the following initiatives:

- Pet Retention
- Low-Cost Spay & Neuter
- Adoption Advocacy
- Pet Safety

The people that make up the group have decades of collective experience in a variety of animal welfare areas. This experience and passion are the key to the long-term success of CAA.

## FIFTH ANNUAL CARNIVALE OF THE DOGS— Sunday, October 7th



Bring your family and join us for a day filled with music, giveaways, food, pet psychic readings, doggie beauty salon, pet caricaturist, photographer, veterinarian, animal rescue groups, various dog related exhibitors, dog trainer demonstrations, Blessing of the Animals by Rev. Celine Penti and the 5th Annual Delaney Dog Show.

Carnivale of the Dogs, sponsored by TD Bank, will be held at the Ridgewood Wild Duck Pond located at 1113 E. Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, NJ. The event will be held Sunday, October 7th from 11am–3pm. Attendees are encouraged to bring a donation of a bag or can of cat or dog food to aid underserved pet owners. There is no admission fee and the event is held rain or shine. As per park regulations, dogs must be on a lead no longer than 6ft. in length (no flexi leads).

### *Have your dog crowned king or queen of the carnivale!*



Raise money to support Companion Animal Advocates and add a beautiful piece of jewelry to your own “Crown Jewel” collection. You can set up your own fundraising page by visiting: <https://www.firstgiving.com/companionanimaladvocates/CarnivaleoftheDogs2012>

The dog who raises the most money as of midnight October 6<sup>th</sup> will be crowned “KING” or “QUEEN” of the Carnivale. Aside from bragging rights, your dog will kick off the opening ceremonies at 11AM and receive priority visits to the Snazzy Salon, photographer, caricaturist and pet psychic. The winner will receive a beautiful 14K gold diamond crown necklace, valued at \$800, donated by Devon Fine Jewelry, located in Wyckoff. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners (also known as members of the royal family) will be named as Prince/Princess and Duke/Duchess and will each receive a piece of jewelry valued at \$150, also donated by Devon. Winners need not be present.

### **Participate in the 5th Annual Delaney Dog Show!**

Compete for prizes and ribbons in fun categories.

For more information, visit: <http://www.companionanimaladvocates.org> or

**Please pass this newsletter along to a friend when you finish reading it. Thank you.**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Operation Feed-A-Pet

Since we started this program, we have donated **126,229 pounds** of pet food to pets in need. This equates to **315,573 bowls of food**. We supply Purina Cat and Dog Chow to the Center for Food Action and the Social Service Association of Ridgewood and Vicinity, Inc. in order to provide pets with a healthy and consistent diet.

Please call Purina at 1-800-778-7462 and request coupons for Purina Dog or Cat Chow (Purina will accept a coupon request once every 4-6 weeks).

Send your coupons to:  
**Companion Animal Advocates**  
P.O. Box 61, Hillsdale, NJ 07642

These valuable coupons significantly help us further our contributions to the Feed-A-Pet program.

### Collect Coupons for FREE Pet Food

If you should come across any coupons for **FREE** pet food or treats, please send them to CAA at the above address.

### Hold a Pet Food Drive

Send emails to your family and friends and ask them each to donate a 15-20lb. bag of dog or cat food to help an underserved family feed their pet.

Once you collect the food, contact [Paty@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org](mailto:Paty@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org) to arrange for drop off of the food.

## SAVE THE DATE

**Ridgewood Veterinary Hospital's Pet Adoption Day**—Sunday, September 30th 11am-4pm  
320 East Ridgewood Ave.,  
Ridgewood, NJ.

**Bergenfest**— Thursday, September 27th 5PM - 9PM  
Sheraton Mahwah Hotel  
1 International Blvd., Mahwah, NJ. Please visit our Web site for more information or to purchase tickets.

## PET FOOD DRIVES TO BENEFIT OPERATION FEED-A-PET

Our program has been the recipient of a tremendous amount of food & other donations thanks to the following groups/individuals that have recently held pet food drives. Our monthly food distribution to the Center for Food Action (CFA) locations in Mahwah, Ringwood & Saddle Brook as well as Ridgewood Social Services have all benefited. We were also able to distribute food to the CFA in Hackensack & Rocky's Pet Pantry in Hawthorne.



The drives were held by: Lauren, Marielle, Rachel & Victoria from Glen Rock Girl Scout Troop # 106 who were working towards completing their Silver Award under the direction of Girl Scout Leaders, Margaret and Linda; Silvia, from Girl Scout Troop #1312 of Mahwah working toward her Silver Award & Girl Scout Troop #9648 under the direction of Julie of Oakland.

## GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Petco Foundation awarded CAA \$2,500 as part of its "We Are Family, Too" grant which provides short-term and seed funding for specific programs created by animal welfare groups who help pet owners who have lost their homes or are experiencing temporary financial hurdles keep their animals.

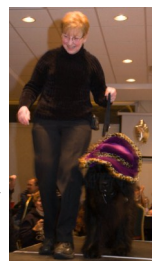
We also received a grant from Best Friends Animal Society in partnership with PetSmart Charities for \$6,000 towards 100 spay/neuter procedures for any Center for Food Action client.

Finally, the ASPCA awarded us a \$1,000 grant to be used for Operation Feed-A-Pet.

We would also like to thank the following for their generous donations: People with Compassion for Animals, CAA was nominated for the donation by Gail Banta, one of its members; Sandi LoConti at BMW of Roxbury; the faculty of Teaneck High School on recommendation from Yris Acevedo, Student Support Counselor; The Saddle River Valley Lions Charities, Inc. and The Maywood Rotary Club which donated \$300 towards three sets of pet oxygen masks for the Maywood Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT— JOYCE OCHS

If ever there was an award for "Volunteer Extraordinaire," Joyce would definitely be the recipient. Joyce has given much of her time and expertise to help CAA in many ways. Currently she is handling our Stop Littering program. She is the person in direct contact with our potential clients and is responsible for getting them the necessary paperwork to have their pet spayed or neutered. She has spent many hours helping with numerous fundraisers over the years. Her "newfie" Kaili, now at the Rainbow Bridge, entertained everyone at several of our events. Joyce currently is the proud "Mom" to two "newfie's" Tanner and Lily. She also spends countless hours with her dogs doing therapy work. She and her dogs visit hospitals, senior centers and children's programs.



## PET OXYGEN MASK DONATIONS



The Humane Education program has been a huge success. Since it's inception, this program has donated more than 60 sets of pet oxygen masks throughout Bergen and Passaic Counties. Our goal is to have every town in Bergen County equipped with a set.

The \$100 tax-deductible donation includes: 3 oxygen masks (1 small, 1 medium & 1 large), 3 oxygen air tubes (1 for each mask) 1 O2 Fur Life carry bag (for storage & mobility), 1 laminated instruction sheet, 1 kennel lead, 2 "Pet Oxygen Masks On Board" decals, 1 PowerPoint presentation (for personnel training), 1 instructional DVD "*Pets Need Oxygen Too*", 2 animal

incident report (AIR) forms for first responders and a pet rescue notice form. Many families have even donated in memory or in honor of a loved one or pet. We would like to thank the following donors who have donated since our last newsletter:

- North Haledon— Ron Panicucci
- Woodridge— Debi Mueller
- Norwood- Alma and Tom McDermott
- Hasbrouck Heights - Dr. Lauren LaPorta
- River Edge— Marguerite and Barry Holmes
- Bergenfield, Mahwah Search and Rescue, Bloomfield, Hawthorne, Wyckoff and Prospect Park— courtesy of The Canine Company (<http://www.caninefence.com>)
- Edgewater— Lori Rutt, Alvaro Serrano, Deb Guston and Pat Nixon
- Garfield - Councilwoman Tana Raymond and the Garfield NJ Chapter of UNICO
- Allendale— Barbara Branch
- Franklin Lakes - Loretta Stadler
- Harrington Park - Helen Helwig
- Maywood - Maywood Rotary Club
- Old Tappan- Mercedes Pedrick and Peppe Pinton
- Park Ridge- Jackie Devlin and Bob Meister
- Paterson- Garry Ferraro
- Washington Township- Patricia Joshi

If you are interested in donating a set to your community, please contact [Christine@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org](mailto:Christine@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org) or call (201) 706-7666.

### IN MEMORY OF...

### 'Never Homeless, Never Hungry, Always Loved'

Our Wheaton, Penny

Kerry Branch, from Barbara and Joe Schenk

Sammy, from Deirdre Russel

### IN HONOR OF...

Betty Nickles from Joe & Anne Torre



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continued support of our organization. We have many upcoming fundraising events and we hope that you can come out and support us as well as meet some of us.

Please visit our Web site, [www.CompanionAnimalAdvocates.com](http://www.CompanionAnimalAdvocates.com), as well as our new Facebook page located at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Companion-Animal-Advocates/302530819770675> and friend us and follow what we are up to, events and volunteer opportunities.

Please feel free to contact us anytime.

All our best,

Anne, Christine, Janel, Joe, Melissa D., Melissa M., Patricia B. and Patty H.  
Companion Animal Advocates Board of Trustees

**To find out how to sponsor an upcoming Companion Animal Advocates Newsletter, please contact [Christine@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org](mailto:Christine@CompanionAnimalAdvocates.org)**

# COMPANION ANIMAL ADVOCATES - WHAT WE DO

Our pets are members of our family. But sometimes a family has to think about giving up their pets because they can no longer afford to feed the pet.

If a family has to give up their pet for this reason, what can they do? Find a new home for the pet OR give it to a shelter and hope they can find a good home for the pet.

- ◆ Companion Animal Advocates helps people in need keep their pets in their family by providing food through its Operation Feed-A-Pet program to help the pet stay healthy and to reduce the family's cost of keeping a pet.
- ◆ Companion Animal Advocates helps provide responsible pet owners with affordable spay neuter options through its Stop Littering program, allowing for healthier pets while reducing pet overpopulation.
- ◆ Companion Animal Advocates also provides community outreach through its Humane Education program. This program was designed to educate the community on such topics as Pet CPR, pet hazards and pet health. We do this through lectures with local vets at public libraries or at vet hospitals. This year, CAA also spearheaded a campaign that is trying to get every town in Bergen County equipped with pet oxygen masks, in case of emergency.



## HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE



09/12

Please send us a donation to help us carry on our work.

Mail this DONATION FORM along with your CHECK to:

Companion Animal Advocates, P.O. Box 61, Hillsdale, NJ 07642

Feed-A-Pet for: 12 months (\$144) 6 months (\$72) 1 month (\$12) Other \$\_\_\_

Spay or Neuter: 3 pets (\$150) 2 pets (\$100) 1 pet (\$50) Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

OR

General Donation: \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 \$10 Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

DONOR'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if we may send your donation acknowledgement via e-mail to save on postage.

In Memory Of In Honor Of \_\_\_\_\_

Send IM/IH acknowledgement to: \_\_\_\_\_